

Silent Night / Enchanting Evening



By Wilhelmina Fredericks

Zerf Productions annual Silent Night concert marked the 21st anniversary of Zerf Productions at St. Ansgars Lutheran Church, January 30th, under the direction of the multi talented tenor Thomas Leslie. Stille Nag, an eclectic show that offered something for all different age groups.

The rich sounding precociously talents artist and organist, violin and piano player were Enchanting. Thomas Leslie pulled together the sensational line up of professional and emerging artists, including the bells of St. Ansgars Choir and musicians which made for the solid Magical musical events of the season. The program begins St. Ansgars Bell Choir, it takes us through the traditional bell ring of Stille Nag, a well conceived, musically rich rewarding journey engaging the audience in the program of the evening

The piano accompaniments of Hugh Cawker were expertly. Effortlessly, sensitively and unobtrusively played Wilhelmina Tiermersma, a world class organist, rolled her golden magic fingers through the organ and accompanied, Aliza Thibodeau on her violin playing Adante Cantabile. The piece opens with a lovely solemn theme, not dominated by the theme of the organ, which ended on a gentle reflection.

Highlights of this generous, 90-minute program are many, but if you're a fan of organ music, you must hear Wilhelmina's commanding rendition of Reger's *Weihnachten*, a masterpiece

The entire artist held the audience attention. Especially when she sang together "nobody knows the trouble I am in" and *Stille Nacht* in three languages

An excellent DVD was presented by Galia Benetuil and Wilhelmina Fredericks of the work *Zerf Productions* does in Africa.

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